

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA NIACT

S E C R E T STATE 225111

NODIS

GENEVA FOR DEPUTY ASST SECRETARY SAUNDERS

FOL REPEAT TEL AVIV 6017 SENT ACTIONSECSTATE SEP 21

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 6017

NODIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, GE, IS, EG, US

SUBJ: EGYPTAIN COMPLAINTS RE GENEVA WORKING GROUP

REF: STATE 225098 CAIRO 9363

1. I SAW RABIN AT 1600 TODAY--I.E. IMMEDIATELY AFTER CABINET MEETING. I TOLD PRIME MINISTER SECY HAD REQUESTED ME, IN FOLLOW-UP TO ATHERTON'S TALK WITH DINITZ, TO REVIEW WITH HIM CURRENT STAE OF PLAY IN GENEVA AND TO EXPLORE WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO DEAL WITH ANGRY COMPLAINTS REGISTERED BY EGYPTAINS WITH ELITS IN CAIRO FRIDAY.

2. RABIN FELT IT WOULD BE USEFUL BACKDROP TO SUCH DISCUSSIONS

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IF HE WERE FIRST TO REPORT TO ME ON DECISION TAKEN AT TODAY'S

CABINET MEETING. I AGREED. RABIN THEN SAID CABINET HAD DECIDED
(1) TO INITIAL PROTOCOL WHEN AGREED REGARDLESS OF WHAT EGYPTAINS DID
AND SIGN AFTER CONGRESS APPROVES AMERICAN PRESENCE IN SINAI;
(2) TO ABIDE BY IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE IF CONGRESS ACTS
BEFORE SEPT 30 ON UNDERSTANDING THAT IF CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS
DELAYED ADJUSTMENT IN SCHEDULE WOULD BE REQUIRED(3)
TO DELAYIMPLEMENTATION IF EGYPTIANS DO NOT PERMIT ISRAELI
CARGO TO TRANSIT CANAL BEFOE OCT 5. RABIN SAID
SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE-ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY NOT(3) WOULD BE INCLUDED
IN PRESS STATEMENT ON CABINET MEETING TO BE ISSUED EARLY THIS
EVENING.

3. WE THEN TURNED TO REVIEW OF WHERE THINGS STAND AT GENEVA.
AS SUGGESTD IN TODAY'S HELPFUL MESSAGE FROM SAUNDERS, I
BEGAIN DISCUSSION BY MIDLY LAUDING ISRAELI BEHAVIOR IN WORKING
GROUP AND NOTING OUR CONERN AT PUZZLING AND UNHELPFUL ANTICS
OF EGYPTAINS NEGOTIATORS IN RECENT DAYS. I TOLD RABIN THAT I
FELT IT WOULD HELP HIM UNDERSTAND DEPTH OF OUR CONCERN IF HE
WERE FULLY AND GRAPHICALLY BRIEFED ON EILTS FRIDAY MEETING WITH
FAHMY, GAMASY, ET AL AT WHICH EGYPTAINS HAD AIRED WHOLE
CATALOGUE OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT ISRAELI INSTRANSIGENACE AND IN
THE PROCESS WENT SO FAR AS TO ACCUSE US, AS WELL AS ISRAELIS OF
BAD FAITH AND DECEPTION. I THEN HANDED RABIN CAIRO'S 9363 WHICH
HE READ WITH CARE AND INTERST, OCCASIONALLY SNORTING AT
OUTRAGEOUSNESS OF SOME OF EGYPAIN CLAIMS AND ACCUSATIONS.

4.
FTER READING CABLE, RABIN SAID HE HOPED I HAD NOT COME
ALL THE WAY TO JERUSAELM TO ASK FOR MORE ISRAELI CONCESSIONS.
HE FELT STRONGLY ISRAELIS HAD MET ALL THEIR COMMITMENTS BOTH
UNDER THE AGREEMENT AND TO US PRIVATELY DURING LAST DAYS OF
SHUTTLE AND THEY SHOULD NOT BEASKED TO DO MORE. I SAID RE-
GRETTABLELY IT WAS PRECISELY THE PURPOSE OF MY VISIT. TO ENLIST
HIS HELP IN AVOIDING FURTHER DETERIORATION
OF GENEVA MOOD AND THIS COULD ONLY BE DONE, WE FELT, BY MORE
FORTHCOMING ISRAELI POSTURE ON KEY ISSUES CAUSING MOST RANCOR
AT GENEVA. REFERRING APPROPRIATELY TO CAIRO'S 9363 AND GUIDED
BY SUGGESTIONS CONVEYED BY SAUDNERS, I THEN OUTLINED IN APPROPRIATE
DETAIL MOVES ON ABU RUDEIS INFRASTRUCTURE, RAS SUDAR TRANSFER,
AND REDEPLOYMENT IN NORTHER BUFFER ZONE WHICH WE FELT WOULD
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EASE SITUATION AND WOULD NOT BE COSTLY TO ISRAELIS.

5. RABIN WAS BY NO MEANS HAPPY AT MY PRESENTATION REITERATED
HIS IMPATIENCE AT OUR FREQUENT APPEALS FOR ISRAELI CONCESSIONS,
AND COUSELED US TO BE LESS CONCERNED BY EGYPTAINS BEHAVIOR.

6. RE ABU RUDEIS, HE ASID ISSUE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE
CABINET MEETING AND IT HAD BEEN

AGREED OIL FIELDS SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO EGYPTAINS IN " OPERATING CONDITION". INSTURCTIONS TO THIS EFFECT HAD JUST BEEN TELEPHONED TO GAZIT IN GENEVA, AND RABIN FELT AS RESULT THER SHOULD BE IMPROVED ATMOSPHERE AT MEETING TODAY.

7. I ASKED IF DECISION MEANT THAT ISRAELIS WOULD LEAVE BEHIND ALL EQUIPMENT ITHIR INHERITED IN 1967 OR SINCE INSTALLED BY ISRAELIS AS REPLACEMENT FOR EQUIPMENT THEN ON HAND. RABIN THREW UP HIS HANDS ANDSAID WE SHOULD LEAVE SUCH DETAILS TO THE TECHNICIANS, HE WAS SURE THAT ARRANGMENTS WOULD BE WORKED OUT TO SATISFACTION OF EGYTPAINS, IF NOT TOADY THEN IN NEXT DAY OR SO.

IN RESPONSE TO MY QUERY, HE SAID(1) THERE WOULD BE GUARANTEED WATER SUPPLY TO OIL FIELDS,(2) HE WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH MATAARMA-ASI WELLS PROBLEM BUT FELT TECHNICIANS COUD RESOLVE QUESTION OF WHETHER THESE SHOULD BE CAPPED OR NOT; AND(3) UNDER NO CONDITIONS TO MEET THSES OR OTHER PROBLEMS WOULD THERE BE NAY CHANGE IN LINE M.

8. RE RAS SUDAR, RABIN DOUBTED IF COMPLEX PROBLEM OF REMOVING AMMUNITION AND MATERIAL FROM AREA(AS DUSCUSSED BY GUR DURING SHUTTLE) WOULD PERMIT TRANSFER EARLIER THAN AGREED DATE--NOV 16. HE WOILD , HOWEVER, CHECK WITH MILITARY AND LET ME KNOW SOONEST.

9. RE REDPLOYMENT IN NORTH, RABIN WAS ADAMANT. ISRAELIS, HE SAID, HAD GONE AS FAR AS THEY COULD GO. THERE WOULD BE NO REPEAT NO FURTHER CHNAGES IN TIMETABLE. IN FACT, THERE MIGHT BE SLIPPAGE IF CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL DELAYED OR CARGO SUEZ TRANSIT NO CONSUMMATED BY OCT 5 AS AFFIRMED AT CABINET MEETING AND DISCUSSED EARLIER IN OUR CONVERSATION.

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10. RABIN THEN BRIEFLY TICKED OFF ADDITIONAL ISSUES ON WHICH HE FORESAW DIFFICULTIES AT GENEVA-(1) NUMBER OF POLICE IN SOUTHERN SALIENT,(2) CIVILIAN RESIDENTS IN NORTHERN BUFFER ZONE- EGYPTAINS, HE SAID, WANT 7000 RETURNED, IF4-3)8 28)) -&433 59 1000-2000 IF CAREFULLY SCREENED BY UNEF, AND(3) TERMS FOR OPERATION OF JOINT COMMISSION. I MADE NO COMMENT EXCEPT TO EXPRESS THE VIEW THAT THESE PROBLEMS SHOULD BE MANAGEABLE WITHOUT HIGH-LEVEL INTERCESSION.

11. COMMENT: I THINC WE HAVE GONE AS FAR AS WE CAN WITH RABIN9 HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES-MANY OF WHOM HAVE SPOKEN TO ME OVER PAST WEEK--ARE CONCERNED AT WHAT THEY REGARD AS EGYPTIAN MALFEASANCE--BOTH AT GENEVA WHERE IT IS FELT EGYPTAINS SEEK TO CHANGE TERMS PRVIOUSLY AGREED AND IN CAIRO WHERE

THEYHAVE RENEGED ON CARGO COMMITMENT AND GIVE
LITTLE INDICATION OF EARLY COPLIANCEHV I AM OF COURSE PREPARED
TO HAVE ANOTHER GO AT RABIN, BUT I DOUBT IF IT WOULD BE HELPFUL.
PERHPAS, WE SHOULD LEAVE THE PROBLEM NOW WITH THE NEGOTIATORS
IN GENEVA WHOSE NERVES MAY BE BETTER THAN THOSE IN CAPITALS.
THIS WAS CLEARLY RABIN'S ADVICE TODAY.

12. DEPT REPEAT CAIRO AND GENEVA FOR SAUNDERS

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